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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 10/087,276 | 03/01/2002 | Paul Simon Ewers | 10541-1200 - V200-0978 | 3090 |
| 29074 | 7590 | 02/24/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| VISTEON C/O BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE PO BOX 10395 CHICAGO, IL 60610 | | | ZARROLI, MICHAEL C | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2839 | |

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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|------------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/087,276 | | EWERS ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | | Art Unit | |
| | Michael C. Zarroli | | 2839 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-5,8 and 9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>PTOL-324</u> |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, in public use, or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 1 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Prokopp et al.

Prokopp discloses a carrier (fig. 1) for holding an electric component having a one or more electrical connection pins (32), comprising a frame (37) for holding the component, a pin guide (19), and a flexible portion (39) connecting the pin guide to the frame (fig. 2), wherein: a) the pin guide has one or more channels (33) there through for receiving said electrical connection pins (fig. 2), the or each channel extending along a connection axis (dashed lines fig. 2); b) the frame has a base (31, 34) for mounting the carrier to a surface that extends transverse to the connection axis (figures 1 & 3); and c) the flexible portion is adapted to flex to allow the pin guide to move parallel to the connection axis (figures 2 & 6 at two headed arrow) when the pin guide is pressed in a direction along the connection axis.

3. Claims 2 and 6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Prokopp et al.

Prokopp discloses an electronic assembly (fig. 1), comprising a carrier (37) and an electronic module, the electronic module having one or more connection pins (32, 42), and being mounted to the carrier (fig. 2) the carrier having a frame (37), a base (34, 31), and a pin guide (19) attached to the frame by flexible members (39), wherein; a) one or more channels (33) defined through the pin guide perpendicular to a lower surface thereof and along a connection axis (figures 2 or 5 vertical axis), the one or more channels having an entrance and an exit (fig. 2 at dashed lines) and said electrical connection pins, being received therein; b) the base defining a plane for mounting the carrier to a surface that extends transverse to the connection axis (figures 3, 6 or 10); and c) the flexible members holding the pin guide in a neutral position (e.g. fig. 2), allow the pin guide to move parallel to the connection axis (figures 2 & 5 double headed arrows) when the pin guide is pressed in a direction along the connection axis independently of the electrical connection pins.

Regarding claim 6 Prokopp discloses that the channel exits have a clearance fit with the pin to align the pin in orthogonal transverse directions to the connection axis when said pin protrudes from the exit (figures 2 & 4).

4. Claim 10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Desso et al.

Desso discloses a circuit board assembly (title), comprising an electronic assembly and a circuit board (4), the electronic assembly being mounted to the circuit board (fig. 4), and the electronic assembly comprising a carrier (fig. 1) and an electronic component having one or more connection pins (8), the electronic component being assembled to the carrier and the carrier comprising a frame (50) for holding the component, a pin guide (34), and a flexible portion (44) connecting the pin guide to the frame (fig. 1), wherein: a) the pin guide has one or more channels (54) therethrough that receive said electrical connection pins (fig. 2), the or each channel extending along a connection axis (fig. 3 at arrow pointing down); b) the frame has a base (52) for mounting the carrier to a surface that extends transverse to the connection axis (fig. 2 at 52); c) the flexible portion is adapted to flex to allow the pin guide to move parallel to the connection axis when the pin guide is pressed in a direction along the connection axis (figures 2 & 3); and d) the or each connection pin is electronically connected to a matching connection on the circuit board (figures 1 & 4).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3-5, 8-9 and, 11-14 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: In combination, the channel with an exit from which the pin protrudes. In combination, the socket mounted on the circuit board and having pin receptacles in which the shape of the pin guide matches the socket to aid alignment of each pin in its corresponding pin receptacle.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 1/31/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument about claim 1 that Prokopp does not disclose a carrier holding an electric component, a recitation of the intended use (especially in the preamble) of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. In a claim drawn

to a process of making, the intended use must result in a manipulative difference as compared to the prior art. See *In re Casey*, 370 F.2d 576, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967) and *In re Otto*, 312 F.2d 937, 939, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963).

Nonetheless, Prokopp does show a carrier attached or holding an electronic component (e.g. 31).

With regard to claim 1, the examiner has interpreted the “biasing force” of the spring of Prokopp as connecting components. Prokopp in fact indicates that the spring is mounted (col. 10 lines 63+). All the figures also show a connection. It is not reading the claim language too broadly to interpret the spring of Prokopp as forming a connection. In Prokopp for example figure 2, (19) is very reasonably interpreted, as a guide for pins and (37) is also clearly a frame. Components 19 and 37 are connected by a mounted spring.

Also, with regard to the rejection of claim 1 Prokopp shows that his pin guide 19 has guides 33 for pins 32; see figures 2 & 4. Prokopp also shows that the base 37 is transverse (right/left on page) to the connection axis (vertical on page).

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., module *mounted* to the carrier and, the pin guide *attached* to the frame) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light

of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims.

See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).


Regarding the rejection of claim 10 with Desso et al, figure 2 (for example) very clearly shows a connection between a pin guide and a frame via among other things a spring 44.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Zarroli whose telephone number is 571-272-2101. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 to 3:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, T.C Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Michael C. Zarroli
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

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